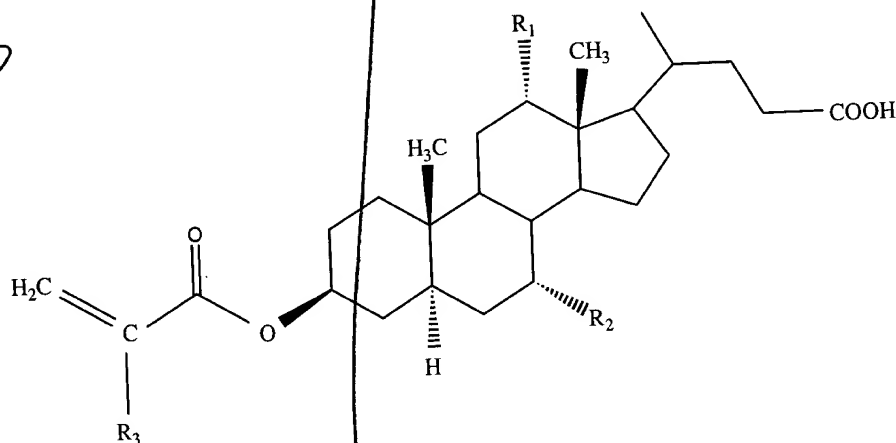


IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend pending claims 1-9 as follows:

--1. (amended) A polymerizable (meth)acrylic acid ester compound for an alkali-soluble resin represented by the following formula (I):



wherein R_1 and R_2 each independently represent a hydrogen atom or a hydroxyl group; and R_3 represents a hydrogen atom or a methyl group.

2. (amended) The polymerizable (meth)acrylic acid ester compound for an alkali-soluble resin of claim 1, wherein R_1 represents a hydroxyl group, R_2 represents a hydrogen atom, and R_3 represents a methyl group.

3. (amended) The polymerizable (meth)acrylic acid ester compound for an alkali-soluble resin of claim 1, wherein R_1 represents a hydroxyl group, R_2 represents a hydrogen atom, and R_3 represents a hydrogen atom.

AMENDMENT

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4. (amended) The polymerizable (meth)acrylic acid ester compound for an alkali-soluble resin of claim 1, wherein R₁ represents a hydroxyl group, R₂ represents a hydroxyl group, and R₃ represents a methyl group.

5. (amended) The polymerizable (meth)acrylic acid ester compound for an alkali-soluble resin of claim 1, wherein R₁ represents a hydroxyl group, R₂ represents a hydroxyl group, and R₃ represents a hydrogen atom.

6. (amended) The polymerizable (meth)acrylic acid ester compound for an alkali-soluble resin of claim 1, wherein R₁ represents a hydrogen atom, R₂ represents a hydrogen atom, and R₃ represents a methyl group.

7. (amended) The polymerizable (meth)acrylic acid ester compound for an alkali-soluble resin of claim 1, wherein R₁ represents, a hydrogen atom, R₂ represents a hydrogen atom, and R₃ represents a hydrogen atom.

8. (amended) The polymerizable (meth)acrylic acid ester compound for an alkali-soluble resin of claim 1, wherein R₁ represents a hydrogen atom, R₂ represents a hydroxyl group, and R₃ represents a methyl group.

9. (amended) The polymerizable (meth)acrylic acid ester compound for an alkali-soluble resin of claim 1, wherein R₁ represents a hydrogen atom, R₂ represents a hydroxyl group, and R₃ represents a hydrogen atom.--